



GREATER LAWNDALE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NEWS NOTES

3152 W. ROOSEVELT RD. CHICAGO 12 ILL. 6-3326

VOL. V NO. 8

SEPTEMBER, 1961

BOX RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 738
Chicago, Illinois

Mrs. Helen Wintors
35 Shanley Ave.
Newark, New Jersey

Form 3547 Requested

OPERATION PRIDE MEETING OCTOBER 4th



THE "SWEEPSTAKES" WINNER? COME TO "AWARDS MEETING" AND SEE

The award meeting of the "Operation Pride" (clean up and property improvement) contest will be held Wednesday, October 4, 1961 at Sears YMCA at 8:00 p.m. The contest is sponsored by the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission.

The official judges, Mrs. Adean Dunagan, Midwest Community Council, Mr. Douglas Turner, Chicago Commission on Human Relations, Mr. James Griggs, Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare, and Mr. Harry Schwartz, Community Conservation Board, have selected the winners.

Three winners in each of four categories, (Homeowners, tenants, vacant lots, block clubs), will be announced at the award meeting. Color slides of the winning entries will be shown. A "Sweepstakes Prize" of two-hundred dollars, and forty honorable mention prizes will also be presented.

Mr. Harry Osgood, Director of Urban Renewal for the Sears Roebuck and Company will be guest speaker.

Mrs. Belle Whaley, prominent Lawndale youth worker and a GLCC board member served as chairman of the year's "Operation Pride" committee. She was quite help-

ful, along with Mrs. Bernice Sayles, her co-chairman in the recruiting of entries.

Richard C. Dean, GLCC's Director of Special Services, served as co-ordinator for this year's project.

1961 WINNERS

HOMEOWNERS

8431 West Park
1829 South Troy
1552 South Sawyer
1887 South Troy
1631 South Central Park
1210 Independence
3548 West Douglas
1539 South Christiana
1241 South Christiana
1893 South Drake
1879 South Karlov
1586 South Tremont
2127 South Central Park
2141 South Central Park
1882 South Central Park
1876 South Central Park
1518 South Drake
1517 South Drake

BLOCK CLUBS

4350 West Calumet Block Club
1500 South Rosner Block
1800 South Tree Block
3500 South Central Park Block
3800 South Central Park Block
3500 West Douglas Block
1800 South Drake Block
2100 South Milford Block
4300 West Greenview Block
2100 South Central Park Block
2100 South Lawndale Block
3200 South Springfield Block
1800 South Christiana Block
1800 South Karlov Block
1800 South St. Louis Block
1800 South Central Park Block
1500 South Springfield Block
4300 West 21st Place Block

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WANTED: MORE NEGRO APPRENTICES

Samuel T. Riley, Director of the Negro American Labor Council and member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission, recently circulated a paper about the need for Negro apprentices. Mr. Riley makes a plea for more Negroes to enroll in the Washburne High School Apprentice Program. Excerpts from the paper are reprinted here.

While a person can make progress in industry without having gone through a formal apprenticeship, studies show that apprenticeship is significant aid to advancement both in pay and responsibility. With automation the advantages are expected to increase.

Yet the estimated number of Negro apprentices in May, 1961, in 12 trades of Chicago's publicly supported Washburne Trade School made up only 1% of those trades' 1960 enrollment of over 2500.

There are many causes for the small number of apprentices. Few have friends and relatives in the trades to tell them about openings and help them get accepted. Many have had poor schooling in all Negro schools and cannot qualify. Sometimes contractors will not hire them or their names will disappear into waiting lists of the Joint Apprenticeship Committees because of discrimination. All these causes seem to be relevant according to Mr. Riley's study.

Mr. Riley states that his informants report that there have been few or no Negro applicants. Those who apply often have no idea of the length of the apprenticeship, the starting pay, the requirements of a high school diploma. When the waiting list and these requirements are brought to the attention of the applicant, he often does not return.

Unfortunately, most schools do not mention apprenticeship in their literature. They speak of college or jobs after school. If the upper grades and high school, general and vocational, would include apprenticeship in their materials and counseling programs, more Negroes might become apprentices.

Mr. Riley suggests that the Washburne Trade School should publish a list of the contractors or shops placing apprentices with them in the annual proceedings of the Board of Education and make these lists available to the high school counselors. Mr. Riley discussed problems in several specific trades.

Only one union informant reported the continued presence of Negroes in the union and among its officers over the years both in Chicago and in the South. This is the Plasterer's Union. It is interesting to note that this is the only trade among the 12 studied in which the estimated percentage of Negro Apprentices is relatively high — 10%. It was stated that the union had had a clause in its by-laws for over 30 years, it was not known when it was adopted providing that anyone practicing racial discrimination must come before the Executive Board.

Mr. Riley was shocked to find the number of Negro apprentices at Washburne was so small. There were none in 7 of the 12 trades studied. Young people from Lawndale who might wish to become apprentices may obtain copies of this study from Mr. Samuel T. Riley at the following address: 3069 W. 19th St., Chicago 23.

GLCC CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 26	
Board of Directors Meeting	
Seers 9	11:45 a.m.
Seers Committee 16	
Work Clubs	8:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 4	
"OPERATION PRIDE"	
Awards Meeting	8:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 10	
Executive Committee	
Seers 7	11:45 a.m.
OCTOBER 24	
Board of Directors Meeting	
Seers 7	8:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 28	
Seers Committee of Study Clubs	
Full Workshop - Seers 7, 1 & 2	1:00 p.m.



James Dittus

community institution and agencies. Rather, the Commission supports and provides coordination of their efforts when such unity more effectively contributes to the whole. When certain community services or functions are inadequate or lacking, the Commission seeks to augment them but always by working through the properly established channels and with a view toward withdrawing as soon as the proper authority takes over. Typical of such activities have been our work with youth, block club organization and the program of health and welfare.

The Commission needs the wholehearted support both personal and financial of the entire community. The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission, however, must never be thought of or represented as a charitable organization. The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission with its positive, on going program provides the opportunity, for all who have an interest and concern, to invest in the future of Lawndale. Here are a few important and compelling reasons the Commission merits the full and continued support of all Lawndale citizens whether they are individual property owners or tenants, institutions, small businessmen or large industrialists.

The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission provides —

the only well organized citizens effort in Lawndale for the maintenance of health, safety and education — so essential to the prevention of spreading blight, vandalism, crime and loss of property value

a positive program embracing long range planning, housing development and grass roots promotion of pride of ownership among the residents of Lawndale

a meeting place for people of different races, nationalities and religions to meet and discuss their problems in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and concern

the voice of Lawndale in hearings of city governmental bodies presenting constructive programs for improvement of essential services and facilities

the publicity and information which help to block the efforts of opportunists who would prey upon the fears of property owners and thus rob them of their homes

the needed stability and continuity of citizens effort in a community undergoing tremendous growth and population change.

For those whose interest and time permit personal participation in the work of the Commission there is a special reward. A fine spirit of fellowship and comradeship exists among the staff, board members and community leaders. In this first hand contact with some of the sickly problems of the urban community a broader perspective and under-

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JOBS FOR YOUTH INTERIM

DIRECTOR ROSEN REPORTS

Forty-one youths have taken course training and of these the present status is as follows: Seventeen are not employed but contact is being maintained, seventeen are employed, the status of five is unknown (no response to request for information); two girls are unable to work.

Graduates are called into the office by means of telephone calls and postal cards; when they appear they are sent out to employers for interviews.

As a result of contact with the Illinois Research Hospital, two high school graduates who visited the office were informed about State Civil Service exams conducted at the hospital, were successful in these exams, and are now employed by the State.

Sponsors received a letter and a return postal card (copies in office) on which they were to indicate progress of their young people. Twenty-one of the graduates themselves responded to a double postal card that was mailed asking for information as to their status.

There is high interest on the part of young people concerning employment; there are nineteen applicants for the fourth class; a good number of persons over the class assistance age came in to see about employment. The most difficult problems have to do with employment opportunities, and with the ability of sponsors to follow the careers of their proteges.

In regard to employment opportunities, it is hoped that there will be a pick-up during the Fall season as a result of other young people going back to school and as a result of improved business. It is hoped that the publicity appearing in popular press concerning the needs of out-of-school youths will prompt employers to give an opportunity to school drop-outs for work.

In regard to sponsors, it may be that these people are too busy to do all we would like them to and we may be expecting too much. We know that they are concerned about the young people they recommend to us and we hope that they can be encouraged to make greater efforts to retain contact.

The fullest effort has to be put forth in securing employment, and in this regard it may be necessary to develop thinking among employers that the dimension of their welfare needs to be extended from that of supporting community funds or foundations to that of being actively involved in helping to train out of school youths for productive employment. This is true, at present, of the distributive education program for drop-outs being developed by Mr. Neal Simon of the Board of Education in collaboration with Carson's.

We have had disappointing failure where employers were unable or unwilling to take the time to teach skills that they thought young people should know already. For example, one boy was placed by us in a plant to do simple maintenance work, but the employer became very unhappy when the new employee began washing windows from the bottom up. He should have known better, but he didn't, and the employer let him go the first day, instead of doing a bit of teaching for the job.

The question, then, comes to mind as to whether the class should go into any depth in the teaching of certain skills that are necessary even for the unskilled workers. Certainly, some of the work to which our candidates will be led will be in maintenance, in stock work, in filing, in lifting and moving heavy objects, etc. and it may be wise to consider spending a day or two in the actual teaching of these tasks. Our young people could then be recommended as having an understanding of how to do specific tasks,

GLCC AND URBAN RENEWAL-VIVAS

Proposal to Undertake a Conservation Program in North Lawndale

Two million dollars has been provided by the new housing act which was signed into law by the President on June 30th. This authorization for urban renewal grants is more than has been spent in the last 12 years in government assisted renewal programs. In the past the principal reason for local unwillingness to promote any new urban renewal activity other than those already initiated has been the knowledge that there was no further federal subsidies available for such projects in this area.



Julio Vivas

Five Year Program of Capital Improvements in Lawndale

The "1961 to 1965 Joint Capital Improvements Program for Chicago," a publication prepared by the Capital Improvements Programs Division of the Department of City Planning, reveals that several millions of dollars will be spent in Lawndale during the next five years.

Urban Renewal Projects Possible with Minimum Local Expenditure

It would seem that there are enough projects planned within the Lawndale area during the next 5 years to provide several millions of dollars in local contributions towards any conservation urban renewal program that might be developed for this area. The trick would be to isolate enough of these capital improvements within a certain project area, plan an urban renewal program around such an area, and present the program with enough facts and cost estimates to the local planning agencies. They must be persuaded that it represents no additional local expenditure over that which is proposed in the capital improvements program. Such a document might be submitted with a minimum of delay in an application to the federal government.

instead of having to be classified as being without skills, as we call upon employers for work opportunities.

The Director may be advised to seek whatever publicity that he can for his program, and to make use of whatever organized groups that seem interested for assistance in securing jobs for the program's graduates. The Association of Commerce of the city and of the neighboring communities, and the Ministerial Associations, of all faiths, may be asked to call upon congregants who are in the position of being able to employ young people to consider doing so.

Three hundred copies of a three page newsletter were mailed to prospective employers. However, personal calls by the Director are the most effective and the most satisfying, and even if jobs are not the immediate result of the calls, seeds have been sown that may bear fruit in the future.

A permanent director of the program has been selected. A profile on him will be forthcoming.

ROUNDING UP WITH THE NEWS

On Saturday, August 12, 1961, eighteen members of the North Lawndale Junior Society with their sponsor Mrs. Belle Whaley and a parent Mrs. Duke, spent the day on an outing at Eagle Lake, Paw Paw, Michigan, with Mrs. J. Buford of GLCC who was enroute to the East on vacation. Sports enjoyed were Boating, Swimming, Hiking, Bar-B-Q cooked on an open pit by the sponsor, with all the vegetable trimmings, corn, tossed salad, etc., plus gallons of orange juice, cake and fresh country fruits were served. Rev. Warren Kelly drove the group to Paw Paw and back to Chicago.

The North Lawndale Junior Society, under the direction of Mrs. Belle Whaley, has recently published a tabloid size community newspaper. Namely the "Lawndale Journal." The quality of this newspaper is very high and quite amazing when one considers that this is a youth project done by a youth organization.

GLCC is extending its congratulations to the NLJS and Mrs. Whaley. We sincerely hope that this fine newspaper can maintain its high quality.

Dr. Lorraine Sullivan has resigned from GLCC's board because of her new post as Principal of Crane High School.

GLCC's Steering Committee of Block Clubs is busy planning its fall workshop.

Revised copies of GLCC's "Director of Lawndale Service" will be available soon at GLCC's office, 3152 W. Roosevelt.

\$240,185 was invested in Lawndale between July 15th and August 15th.

Mrs. Juliette Buford, GLCC's Director of Community Services has been highly praised by Mr. Jerome Braverman, chairman of Sears Camp Committee, and Mr. Claude J. Peck Jr., chairman, Board of Directors, Sears Y. For her efforts in "recruiting campers, raising funds to send youngsters to camp, and interpreting the camp program."

Incidentally, Camp Sears was filled with boys and girls for all five of the regular periods.

Mrs. Juliette Buford's organization abilities has helped raise \$251.26 for the Salvation Army Doughnut Day. The breakdown is as follows: Volunteer Service Group \$27.28, Junior Society Worker \$31.79, 1200 Kildare Block Club \$22.11, Mrs. Edith Friedman \$20.15, Mrs. Thompson (Campbell Soup Co.) \$149.93.

Now that school has started, our thoughts can turn once again to P.T.A. activities. The Farragut P.T.A. will hold its first meeting at night, Friday, Sept. 29th, at 7:30 in the social room (217). Mrs. Ludwig Jurik will preside over a short meeting. Fathers are urged to come and see what goes on at a P.T.A. meeting.

William McBride, Farragut's principal, will be on hand

Operation Pride Meeting...

BLOCK CLUBS (Cont.)

1200 South Kildare Block
3500 West Peck Block
4100 West Calverton Block
4000 West Calverton Block
3400 South Troy Block
3200 South Troy Block
4200 West Fullerton Block
4200 West Calverton Block
1900 South Avera Block
2300 South Springfield Block
1900 South Springfield Block

TENANTS

1302 South Drake
1321 South Drake
1347 South Sawyer

VACANT LOTS

1609 South Central Park

BUSINESSES

Ogden and St. Louis Avenue
1409 South Pulaski Road

CHURCH

1968 South Millard

A Serious Look...

(Continued from page 2)

standing is developed, especially for those whose normal orbit of existence is narrow and restricted. This reference to fellowship and comradeship, however, is not to be construed as evidence of happy acquiescence or general agreement. Board members are individuals with their own ideas. Majority agreement comes only after a healthy exchange of views.

Characteristic of these matters of controversy is the question of how broadly to interpret the objectives of the Commission. With so much needing to be done it would be easy for Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission to spread itself so far as to dilute the effectiveness of its efforts. This is only avoided by continued examination of objectives and careful planning for their accomplishment. Another matter often discussed is the extent to which the Commission should support or engage in the militant crusading of special interest groups. In this regard, it is significant to note that the strength of the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission lies primarily in the fact it is not a "front organization" or "champion" for a particular group or specialized interest. It is through keeping itself truly representative of the whole community that the Commission can continue to effectively serve its constituency.

In summary, the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission represents all segments of the residential and business community of Lawndale. It is committed to work for health, safety and general welfare of all who live in or travel through the area. It seeks to secure adequate housing, education and work opportunities for all who live here by properly placing the needs before the delegated authorities and offering constructive suggestions for remedy when closer association with the problems provide a broader insight. Recognizing, however, that maintenance of law and order and support of the established institutions are vital to the well being of every community the policy of the Commission is to always fully support an existing authority even while working with it for needed improvements.

This is my concept of GLCC and its program.

to meet everyone, as will some of the teachers. Refreshments will be served and members and guests will be allowed to visit various activities going on in the school, as Friday is activity night for the students. Come and join us for the first meeting of the term.

GREATER LAWDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

President.....Eugene A. Kaczmarek

Vice Presidents.....Dr. Dorothy Branch

Dr. Agnes D. Lottimer

Joseph Rosen

Secretary.....Ethel Vranco

Treasurer.....Melvin A. Hart

Executive Director.....Julia Vivas

Editor.....Richard C. Dean